

THE HOUSE LEADERS

How Our Ablest Representatives Look, Act and Talk.

CARLISLE'S MODEST GREATNESS

Silver-Tongued Breckinridge-McCreary, of Kentucky, and Sunset Cox's Long Speech-Grosvener's Career.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5, 1890.—[Special correspondence of THE HERALD.]—The present Congressional session is going to be one of fighting from the word go. Both Democrats and Republicans have dipped their tongues in oil of vitriol, and the acrimonious remarks of the past week are but the beginning of a poisonous stream of eloquence which will burn not only the hearts of their opponents, but which will stir the souls of both parties throughout the country. The men are

RIPE FOR THE OCCASION.

There have never been more noted leaders in both houses of Congress than there are now, and the House has a dozen brainy statesmen who are ready for the fray and are glad that it is on. I took a look at John G. Carlisle to-day. He looks almost as young as he did when he was elected speaker six years ago. His shoulders have become slightly stooped, it is true, and his blue eyes are full of fire and the iron of his blood has not been weakened by his unrelenting industry. Carlisle is one of the hardest workers in public life. He leaves his accomplished Juno-like wife to keep up the society end of his Washington life, and he delivers in figures and facts as though he were a young lawyer of twenty-five with his reputation to make. Carlisle is six feet tall. Of slender form, he has a strong, rough, honest face. His forehead is high and broad, his complexion is sallow, his eyes light gray and his cheeks are thin. He dresses in statesman's black, wears a double-breasted frock and tie with his own hands a black string necktie around his standing collar. I would not call him a handsome man but he would be a striking one anywhere. On the floor he speaks with few gestures and his voice is a hard metallic one, booming at times almost nasal. His forte is in his wonderful command of fact and statistics. He remembers everything that he has ever read and seems to have read everything. He makes no fuss in his speaking, does not talk to the galleries and is the most unassuming man in Washington.

I RODE DOWN WITH HIM

From the Capitol one day in a street car, and when we had reached the avenue a young negro girl entered the car. There was no seat for her and she stood by the strap as she looked up and down the benches on both sides. I was surprised to see Speaker Carlisle, for he was then speaker of the House, had come to this place. A moment later he saw that he could make room for her beside him, and he moved the rest of us up against the end and motioned her to sit down. His treatment of every one else is on the same democratic basis. His latch string is out to everybody, and anybody who wants to see him can see him at any time. He lives very nicely here at Washington, and his brick house on K street is one of the most attractive ones of the capital. He is fortunate in having a wife who is willing to take care of him, and Mrs. Carlisle watches over his health as carefully as though he were her son instead of her husband. Carlisle is the

EMBODIMENT OF THE FREE TRADE

Idea and the same may be said of W. C. P. Breckinridge, who is well known with McCreary makes the free trade dog on one of the strongest from the south. Breckinridge is known as the silver-tongued orator in his own state. He is an eloquent speaker, is a man of fine culture and he delights in well rounded sentences. He speaks a third as much again as Carlisle, though he is not as tall, and he is one of the fine looking men of the House. His hair is frosted silver, his beard is as white as newly-shedded lime and his cheeks are rosy as the rising moon. He is a noted lawyer and was a professor in the University of Louisville before he came to Congress. Many of his speeches are extremely pure ones and he has shown himself to be a good all-around debater. He is as good a fellow as he is a statesman, and he lives in a very nice brick house here about two miles from the Capitol on Sixteenth street. In the house of ex-Senator Henderson's hundred thousand-dollar brown stone chateau. Breckinridge has a curious way of preparing his speeches. He dictates the matter to a stenographer and then has the cylinders written out in type-writing. He did for a long time dictate his mail directly to the type-writer, and he is one of the men who can get through a great deal of work in a very short time.

Representative Breckinridge's cousin, Breckinridge of Arkansas, is also prominent in the Democratic party. He is the son of John C. Breckinridge, and he moves about the House looking as though he wanted to fight and was ready to take up arms at a moment's notice. He is a little anatomy with a saw-like face and a heavy jaw. He possesses considerable ability and has shown himself an able speaker.

MC CREARY, OF KENTUCKY.

He is also a good speaker, though he has not as yet shown the full force of his eloquence. Breckinridge of the fact of Carlisle. He is a straight, well-proportioned man of medium height, with a pair of eyes as black as alder, with a broad forehead and with raven black hair. He dresses well, is perfectly at home upon the floor, and his speeches show him to be something of a student. He is a difficult man to get on at a moment's notice. He is a little anatomy with a saw-like face and a heavy jaw. He possesses considerable ability and has shown himself an able speaker.

OHIO COMPANIES WITH KENTUCKY

In this Congress as to the number of its able representatives. The able Ohioans, however, are Republicans. Ben Butterworth, Major McKinley and Charles Grosvenor size up well with Carlisle, Breckinridge and McCreary. Carlisle is the embodiment of the protective tariff idea. He is an able speaker and this side of the tariff has been his study for years. He is careful in the preparation of his speeches, and does not believe in speaking unless he has something to say and makes a bit nearly every time. McKinley is a good politician and he might almost be called a statesman. His act at Chicago in stating that he was a friend of John Sherman's and that he wanted no one among his friends to vote for him as a Presidential candidate was a heroic one and it aided

to his fame. He may yet be President of the United States and if so he will make an eminently respectable President. He is cautious and conservative, full of dignity and he has the bearing of a great man. He never makes a mistake and he has the sense to keep his mouth shut at the right time. He comes from the central part of Ohio, is well to do and though he is not a money-maker his income is by no means small. He made one of the ablest of the Republican speeches in last week's quarrel, and he may be called the Republican leader on the floor.

ONE OF THE BEST FIGHTERS

In Congress and the man who is always ready to throw off his coat and jump into the muck is Ben Butterworth. He is a bluff, good-natured fellow who reminds one of a jolly sea captain, always ready to sing a song, tell a story or knock down the man who insults him. Butterworth always calls a spade a spade and if he has a personality to utter he does not hesitate to do it. He has made the Quaker instincts of his father and mother, who were noted abolitionists and who were members of the Society of Friends. During Ben's first political campaign he was much of a fighter as he is now and his father saw fit to give him a bit of advice, which he did in writing and as follows:

"My dear Benny:

"Thy mother and myself have thought well to give thee some advice touching the conduct of thy campaign. We desire to say to thee that we deem it better for thee to deal severely with bad principles and bad practices than to deal severely with bad men now living, who might be angered and do harm. Thy affectionately,

(Signed) Thy Father."

At latest accounts, however, Butterworth has not taken this advice. He is a brave man as well as an eloquent one, and the fear of harm from the men on the other side of the House does not affect his speeches. He is one of the fastest talkers in the House, and he rattles out the dictation at the rate of 300 words a minute when he grows excited. When he talks he talks all over, and there is not an atom in the 200 pounds which make up his anatomy which does not move when he takes the floor. He is as good an after-dinner talker as he is a political debater, and there is no man in Congress who can sing: "I'm a Dandy Copper of the Broadway Squad" as well as Ben Butterworth of Ohio. I have myself heard him sing this song ten times, according to the number of notes cut into a stick, and every time that the Gridiron club meets and Butterworth is invited, which is nearly always, he is made to sing.

He lives very nicely here at Washington, owns a house worth about ten thousand dollars and has a pleasant family. He is, I am told, tired of Congressional life, and like many of his fellow statesmen of more than ordinary legal ability, he is anxious to leave Congress and go back to law where he can make money as well as reputation.

GENERAL CHARLES GROSVENER

is another good fighter. He has been fighting all his life, and when his mother taught him his first prayer, I doubt not that he kicked against it, wondering before he accepted it. Grosvenor comes from Athens, Ohio, and for the past generation, during which he has been a politician there, the Republican party has been divided into factions, and Grosvenor has been a fighter at the head of one of them. He has succeeded in downing his opponents, and he can now stay in Congress as long as he will. He is a tall, white haired, gray bearded man with eyes of the same color. He has a Sevres china, and with a tongue that can beat that of one of those porcelain figures, whose head moves on a pivot and whose tongue goes in and out all day long. Grosvenor is a good speaker. He is a little too quick, and jumps to his feet now and then when he had better remain in his chair. He is, however, always ready to say something, and he very often says it very well. He ranked as one of the red heads of the House when he first came here, about four years ago, and though his hair is now white his heart action is good and his joints are well oiled. He is only fifty-seven years of age, and he was born in Connecticut in 1833. His father carried him out to Ohio as a squawling baby, and he was rocked in a sugar trough instead of a cradle. He went to school in a log schoolhouse, did his first reading by the light of an old-fashioned log fire, and pounded away until he has gotten an extraordinary amount of facts stored in the gray matter of his brain under that snow-white head of his. He has been a soldier, a speaker of the Ohio legislature, and divers odd other things before he became a congressman, and he now has the seat of Silver Dollar Warner.

JOE CANNON

tells me that he is tired of congressional life, and he thinks he would have been better off if he had stayed out of Congress and stuck to money-making. He is an able speaker, nevertheless, and he will be heard from a number of times during the next few weeks. Cannon is perpetual motion personified when he makes a speech. He tears the air, pounds his desk, and needs about twenty square feet to move around in. He comes red in the face, and throws his fingers at Roger Q. Mills while he howls out defiance and logic in strong nasal tones.

SPEAKING OF MILLS.

He has not cut much of a figure this session, and the leadership which he held as chairman of the ways and means committee of the last Congress, has been practically taken from him by the re-appearance of Speaker Carlisle upon the floor. Mills is not a great speaker, and as compared with Carlisle, he is not a great man. He has not the reading of Carlisle, and his chief forte is the tariff, the different phases of which he has studied to a considerable extent. At the time Mr. Mills was chosen as the head of the ways and means committee, I called upon him to get the story of his life for the New York Herald. It was in the winter. I found him in his shirt sleeves, though the thermometer was at zero and there was snow on the ground. He did not put on his coat during the interview, and notwithstanding the fact that Mrs. Mills was in the room, he seemed perfectly at home. He is a big man. Fully six feet tall, his arms and legs are as big as Joe Cannon's, and you could put the little head of Henry Cabot Lodge inside of his big cranium and there would be an inch of space between the outside bones of the one and the inside bones of the other. I doubt not that the smaller head would contain fully as much brains as the larger.

W. S. HOLMAN

is another Democratic leader. His long experience in Congress, and his knowledge of the ins and outs of congressional appropriations added to a remarkable amount of a certain kind of ability, make him one of the ablest men on the floor. He knows just when to object and how to clear legislation upon any measure that he disapproves of. Holman is a curious looking man. Nature made him when she was in her roughest mood, and you will not find a curve in the whole six feet of his anatomy. He looks as though he was carved out with a square and a draw shave. His body is all angles, and his tongue is the most angular of the whole. When he speaks his voice sounds like a buzz saw which has struck a knot, and he cuts the air in geometrical figures. His beard is as rough as the rest of his face, and his hair looks as though his head was covered with cockleburrs. He is an uneasy body and is very fond of chewing tobacco. When he is not speaking he chews, and his jaws are in one way or another kept in perpetual motion. For all his roughness, however, he has one of the kindest of hearts, and he is very popular. He lives in the neighborhood of \$300,000. He was born sixty-eight years ago. He has a fine farm there, and he is worth, I am told, in the neighborhood of \$300,000. He lives here at a hotel, and he has for twenty-two years paid rent and board in Washington.

A SCORE OF OTHER LEADERS

In the House of Representatives, many of whom are able and several of whom have won their spurs in debate. Julian C. Burrows, of Michigan, is a fine speaker, with some spread eagles about him. Boutelle, of Maine, is a good speaker, and his voice is as strong as that of the bull of Bashan. Henry Cabot Lodge has both gall and brains, and Payson, of Illinois, makes many a good speech. McCoombs, of Maryland, is a good talker, and John Daboll, of Pennsylvania, has shown himself to be a man of ability. Blount, of Georgia, is another spread-eagle speaker; and Crisp, the bald-headed, gets there every time. He does not make many mistakes like that he

made while he was in Georgia during the Cleveland administration and some malicious reporter had telegraphed that a baby had been born in the White House. Crisp thought the report was true, and he made an after-dinner speech in which he said that the news had come to him, "That in the house of our fathers a child is born. Let us all unite," and he, the hope that the mother and the baby are well." His speech was telegraphed over the country, and when he heard that the report was a false one he grasped at his crown with an air as though it had been covered with hair and he would tear it in his dismay.

Mr. Crisp has, during the past week, jumped away to the front as the House leader. The prospect is that he will take the honors from Mr. Carlisle. He is very ready in debate, has a strong, full voice, and he is not afraid of anything. He is nearly as big as Reed in size, was forty-five years old last month and is in perfect health. He is, I am told, the son of an actor, was born in England, has been in the confederate army and was a judge before he was elected to Congress. He is a well educated man, and is a gentleman and a scholar. He possesses to a marked degree, the qualities of leadership, does not lose his head when on the floor, and his command of the Democratic forces is increasing in power every day.

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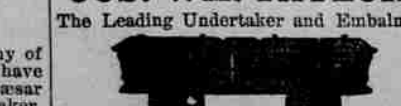
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102 " " " " " " " " " " " "	assorted styles,	9.25	15.50
210 " " " " " " " " " " " "	fine black worsted dress suits,		
54 " " " " " " " " " " " "	all wool,	9.65	16.50
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410 pair Men's jeans pants, good quality		.70	1.00
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65 Men's blue and brown beaver overcoats,		6.50	12.50
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50 " " " " " " " " " " " "	white unlaund'd dress shirts	.40	.75
35 " " " " " " " " " " " "	full dress shirts	1.40	3.00
200 " " " " " " " " " " " "	best blue denim overalls	.45	.75
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